(c) There is no definite infirmation that drug offenders are actively assisted by foreign agencies across the border. However, arrangements for gethering of intelligence and exchange of intelligence between the different agencies have been streamlined.

(d) The number of Indian and foreign national arrested in 1992 and in 1993 (upto October) are given below :—

	1992	upto 1993 (Oct.)
Indian persons arrested . . .	12734	9870
Foreign nationals arrested . . .	116	129

(e) Training is being imparted to the enforcement officers of various agencies to improve their effectiveness. A part of the Indo-Pakistan border has been fenced. The strength of enforcement agencies in the border areas has been enhanced. Equipment has also been supplied to some enforcement agencies to improve their mobility and communication facilities in the border areas.

हवाला गिरोह

1431. श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय :
श्री महेन्द्र सिंह लाठर :
श्री राम नरेश यादव :

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को दुबई में फल-फूल रहे हवाला गिरोह के हमारे देश के विभिन्न भागों विशेष रूप से दिल्ली, मुम्बई तथा कलकत्ता में संबंध होने की जानकारी है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो हवाला गिरोह का पता लगाने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या-क्या प्रयास किए गए हैं और उनके क्या परिणाम प्राप्त हुए हैं; और

(ग) इस संबंध में अन्य ब्यौरा क्या है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम०वी० चन्द्रशेखर मूर्ति) : (क) से (ग) हवाला गिरोह को रोकने के लिए सरकार ने समान विनिमय दर की शुरुआत, कोफेपोसा के अधीन विदेशी मुद्रा के गिरोह की नजरबन्दी, वि०मु०वि०अ० (फेरा) के अधीन उचित कार्रवाई जैसे अनेक कदम उठाए हैं। हवाले के मामले में प्रीमियम में कमी के संकेत हैं।

Smuggling of Arms and Ammunition

1432. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH :
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Govrenment's attention has been drawn to a report published in the 'Observer', New Delhi of 3rd September, 1993 under the caption patrolling along Kerala, TN coast intensified to stop ship with arms ;

(b) if so, what are the facts in this regard ; and

(c) what steps have been taken by the Customs and Central Excise Agencies to check the smuggling arms and ammunition into the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) Government is aware of the News Report.

(b) Intelligence was received on the possibility of a ship attempting to land a consignment of explosives on the Southern Costline. However surveillance and patrolling did not reveal anything.

(c) Customs & Central Excise formations concerned with anti-smuggling remain

alert to act against all smuggling activities including smuggling of arms, ammunition and explosives. Close coordination is being maintained amongst all Central and State Government agencies concerned with prevention and detection of smuggling activities.

Waiving of Import Duty on Wool

1433. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite wool being imported, export of varieties of woollen material has gone up considerably;

(b) whether the wool production has remained more or less static in the country and in order to export more the industry requires more imported wool and the wool material manufacturers are demanding waiving of import duty on wool; and

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take and details of demand, if any, received from wool industries for abolition of import duty on wool?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is true that for increasing exports, the industry needs more imported wool and certain Associations have requested for reduction of import duty on wool.

(c) In view of the ensuing Budget for the year 1994-95, it is not possible to offer any comments at this stage.

Duty-Free Import of Capital Goods

1434. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to allow duty free import of capital under the Export Promotion Capital Goods scheme;

(b) whether the Indian machine tools manufacturers have protected against this decision; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir, in view of reply to part (a) above.

Foreign Exchange Reserves

1435. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the amount of foreign exchange (US) purchased by RBI;

(b) what is the present state of foreign exchange reserves; and

(c) what was the net outflow of foreign exchange during the current financial year and what was the net inflow?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) The net purchases of foreign exchange by the RBI during the current financial year till end November, 1993 have been US $ 4781 million.

(b) The present state of foreign exchange reserves (excluding Gold and SDRs) is comfortable at $ 8.2 billion at the end November, 1993 showing an increase of about $ 1.8 billion over the level at March end 1993.

(c) The net inflow of foreign exchange during the current financial year till end November, 1993 has been of the order of $ 1.8 billion.